(b) and (c) There are adequate provisions in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)Act, 1957 and other Statutes to deal with the problem of illegal mining. Section 23 C of the said Act empowers the State Government to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals etc. No information about Chinese model of co-operative mining is available, nor is it being considered by CIL.

Position of coal reserves

1647.SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the position of coal reserves as estimated during 2008-09, after keeping in view the extraction of coal during the last twenty years from 182 blocks worth 41,410 million tonnes allocated for extraction between 1987 and 2007;

(b) whether the objective of using coal as raw input for power generation and production of steel/sponge iron is being fully met from the indigenous resources; and

(c) how much coal has been imported, year-wise in 2006, 2007 and 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The total coal resources as established by the explorations carried out by various agencies stood at 264.535 Billion Tonnes as on 01.04.2008 and 267.210 Billion Tonnes as on 01.04.2009. As per the present practice the estimated resources do not take into account the coal already extracted from the established resources.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The gap between the projected demand and domestic supply of coal is being met through imports. Details of year-wise coal imports as gathered from Coal Controller Organisation are as under:

Coal imports in the Country (in Million Tonnes)

Year	Coking Coal	Non-Coking Coal	Total Coal
2005-06	16.89	21.70	38.59
2006-07	17.88	25.20	43.08
2007-08	22.03	27.77	49.79
2008-09 (Provisional)	24.00	35.00	59.00

Plight of workers in coal mines

†1648. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the pathetic plight of workers working in coal mines;

(b) whether Government is aware that these workers give a large part of their wages to coal mafia.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is aware that these coal mafia have got the backlog of high placed officials of NCL; and

(d) if so, the details of measures being taken by Government for these workers for their normal life and security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of various problems faced by workers working in coal mines. Keeping in view the problems faced by the workers,various measures are undertaken from time to time to improve the working conditions and living conditions by the coal companies. They also undertake welfare activities and social security measures. Recently, Joint Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry (JBCCI) comprising of representatives of the Central Trade Unions, *i.e.* INTUC, AITUC, HMS, BMS & CITU and the management signed the National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA-VIII) which is effective from 1.7.2006 wherein there has been an increase in both wages and other fringe benefits including the components related to welfare and social security.

(b) No Sir. The Government is not aware of any such practice of workers giving a large part of their wages to coal mafia.

(c) No Sir.

Modernisation of coal mines

1649.SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to modernise a number of its coal mines in the country and also to incorporate upgraded technology and machineries;

(b) if so, the details of losses/profits earned by each of the coal mines during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether most of the underground mines of the Eastern Coalfields Limited have been under losses for the last several years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) to what extent the modernisation and upgradation of various coal mines is going to bring such coal mines out of the red?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All the opencast mines (155 nos. in Coal India Limited (CIL) and 14 nos. in Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)) are mechanized mines. In case of 294 underground mines in CIL; 112 mines are mechanized/semi mechanized; 84 mines are having both manual and semi mechanized working and the rest 98 are having manual.' workings. In Case of SCCL all 36 mines are mechanized/semi mechanized. CIL proposes to further mechanize 28 mines with longwall /continuous miner technology and 40 mines with t semi mechanization deploying side discharge loaders/load haul dumpers. The loss/Profit incurred by some of the mines proposed for mechanization are given in the table below: